



## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Federal Housing Finance Agency

400 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20219

September 20, 2019

Emma Best  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 79446  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516  
By Electronic Mail: 79446-58934543@requests.muckrock.com

RE: Freedom of Information Act

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter responds to your August 26, 2019 request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. §552, which was received by the Federal Housing Finance Agency's Office of Inspector General (FHFA-OIG) on August 26, 2019. Your request has been assigned the tracking number 2019-FOIA-00024 and seeks the following information:

**A copy of the list or printout or database listing of Inspector General investigations closed/reports completed during calendar year 2015. If the list is organized by FY rather than calendar year, the FY 2015 list is sufficient for this request. If no central list or database exists, then I request copies of the cover sheet or first page of each IG report completed during calendar year 2015.**

FHFA-OIG has conducted a search and has determined that it possesses **15** pages of records responsive to your request. These are attached.

Certain information contained in these records have been exempt and withheld under the following FOIA Exemptions:

- (b)(3)(A), Allows the withholding of information prohibited from disclosure by another federal statute provided that the statute requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue. The statutes FHFA-OIG is asserting in this regard are the qui tam provisions in: 31 U.S.C. § 3729 and 31 U.S.C. § 3730.
- (b)(5), Permits withholding information under the deliberative process privilege, including the pre-decisional documents, or information that could be withheld under civil discovery, attorney-client, or attorney-work product privileges.
- (b)(6), Permits withholding of records and information about individuals when disclosure would be a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.
- (b)(7)(C), Permits withholding of records when an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy could reasonably be expected.

Non-Public

In addition, there is one instance where information has been marked as non-responsive because the information pertains to investigations by agencies other than FHFA-OIG. There is also one instance where a blank redaction code was used because of a typographical error that indicated the allegations had been proven when in fact they had been disproven.

This is the final decision on your request. You may contact me for any further assistance at [foia@fhfaoig.gov](mailto:foia@fhfaoig.gov). Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: *Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.*

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request and believe this decision denies your request in whole or in part, you may appeal it in writing within 90 days by writing directly to the FOIA Appeals Officer via electronic mail, mail, delivery service, or facsimile. Your appeal must cite the applicable tracking number(s) for the request(s) you contend to have been denied. Your appeal must include a copy of the request(s) you contend to have been denied, a copy of the decision letter, and a statement of circumstances, reasons, or arguments you believe support disclosure of the requested record(s). Your appeal must also be clearly marked "FOIA Appeal: FHFA-OIG." The electronic mail address is: [foia@fhfaoig.gov](mailto:foia@fhfaoig.gov). For mail or delivery service, the mailing address is: FOIA Appeals Officer, Federal Housing Finance Agency, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, DC 20219. The facsimile number is: (202) 649-1073. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sheila Peden", followed by a small monogram or initials.

Sheila Peden  
Acting FOIA Officer  
Attorney Advisor